University of Nevada, Reno

University Center for Economic Development

Fourth Quarter Report
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Prepared by
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Summary: In June 2006, the University Center for Economic Development at the University of Nevada, Reno changed its funding cycle to begin in the month of June. Therefore, the quarterly reports after 2006 start with the month of June. The University Center for Economic Development continued to profile statewide and technical assistance on economic development for the fourth quarter of FY 2007-2008. During the fourth quarter, the University Center produced six applied research projects, five other research projects, five technical and management assistance projects, seven counseling and referrals, one workshop, one technical presentations, ten Cooperative Extension fact sheets (five under review), two journal articles under review, and two book chapters have been accepted for publication.

Project Mix and Staff: The University Center registered activity in a wide variety of areas and has actively participated in programs throughout the state. The University Center has a staff of Thomas R. Harris, Director; Mike Havercamp, State Extension Mediation and Group Facilitator Specialist; Jonathan Alevy, Research Assistant Professor; Man-Keun Kim, Research Assistant Professor; Elizabeth (Betsy) Fadali, Research Associate; Shannon Price, Research Associate; Sue Strom and Genet Sauer, Administrative Assistants; and George “Buddy” W. Borden, Community Development Specialist, who is also affiliated with the University Center but is located at the Clark County Cooperative Extension Office in Las Vegas.
Project Summaries

A: Marketing Activities:

The University Center continues its technical assistance to agencies interested in marketing and promoting economic development in the state of Nevada. The University Center developed procedures to review and mail to interested populace products developed by the University Center. These products are fact sheets, technical reports, and journal articles. Six technical reports were published and one Cooperative Extension fact sheet, four Cooperative Extension fact sheets and two journal articles were under review, and two book chapters were accepted for publication during the third quarter, fiscal year 2007/2008 by the University Center. Four workshops were offered by the University Center to present economic data and results of a past project.

The Center currently maintains a web page. The address is [http://www.ag.unr.edu/uced](http://www.ag.unr.edu/uced). From this web page, a person is able to access and download past University Center technical reports, Regional Economic Information System data developed by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis for the state of Nevada and its seventeen counties, and selected historical and current economic data from various state agencies. Data may be defined for download using a web form and are available in a choice of download formats. Links to other key sites can also be found. The site is constantly being updated with reports and new data sets. University Center technical bulletins for 1995 through 2006 are currently online in Adobe PDF format.

B. Applied Research:


Location of Project: Colorado River Regional Economy.

Nature of Project: An economic adjustment grant from EDA to assist the regional economy to develop a regional economic development strategy to mitigate the loss of jobs at the Mohave Generating Station.

Action: Community Business Matching (CBM) Model methodology was used for this program. This involves a regional process that includes a regional advisory committee. The CBM process was completed and a University Center Technical Report was produced. The completed report was sent to Seattle Regional Office of the U.S. Economic Development Administration (assignment completed):

- The 25 member Regional Advisory Committee has met eight times.
- The Regional Advisory Committee participated in introductory training session on CBM methodology.
- The Regional Advisory Committee assisted the University Center administer goal/priority surveys to over 75 resident groups.
• The Regional Advisory Committee assisted the University Center in collecting regional asset and infrastructure inventory data.
• University Center staff developed a computer generated model to input local data.


2. Client: Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station.

Location of Project: State of Nevada.

Nature of Project: Estimate of location factors for biotechnology firms at the state level. Economic impacts of the biotechnology firms in Nevada are also being estimated.

Action: Detailed econometric models have been developed to estimate the factors of location for biotechnology firms. Interdependence of location of biotechnology firms is being estimated. A Master’s Thesis was completed on this topic. A University Center Technical Bulletin and journal article are being developed. (Assignment continues.)

3. Client: Western Rural Development Center.

Location of Project: Western States of the Nation.

Nature of Project: Western States of Nevada, Montana, and Hawaii are developing a model to match businesses with community economic development preferences.

Action: A community business matching model has been developed and is currently being applied in Anaconda, Montana, Laughlin, Nevada, and Bullhead City, Arizona. A users’ manual is being developed. (Assignment continues.)


Location of Project: State of Nevada.

Nature of Project: Nevada, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Missouri, and Oklahoma were chosen as pilot states for a National Rural Health pilot project called Operation Rural Health Works.

Action: Economic impacts of the healthcare sector in Elko County and Boulder City, Nevada were calculated. Also, two feasibility studies were completed. (Assignment continues.) Publications developed are:


5. Client: Lander County Commissioners.

Location of Project: Lander County, Nevada.

Nature of Project: Requested Geographic Information System (GIS) analysis of growth in Lander County.

Action: GIS data is being collected and an analysis will be run. A proposal has been developed for a housing analysis of Lander County. A final report is being developed. (Assignment continues.)


Location of Project: White Pine County, Nevada.

Nature of Project: Request to analyze potential economic clusters and housing shortage in White Pine County.

Action: Grant developed and accepted by White Pine County Commissioners. Socio-economic, housing, and Geographic Information System (GIS) are currently being collected for analysis. A final report is being developed. (Assignment continues.)

C. Other Research Projects


Location of Project: Walker River Basin.

Nature of Project: Estimation of the economic impacts of surface purchases in Lyon County for fresh water flow to Walker Lake.

Action: Two proposals were submitted and accepted for the Walker River Basin Study. The University Center was notified of acceptance of the proposals. Studies have been initiated and final reports are being developed. (Assignment continues.)

2. Client: Elko County Commissioners.

Location of Project: Elko County.

Nature of Project: A draft proposal was developed for acceptance by Elko County Commissioners. A University Center publication was developed and sent to the Elko County Commissioners on the economic impacts of the hard rock mining sector on
the economy of the Elko Micropolitan Study Area. Additional reports are currently being developed. (Assignment continues.)


3. **Client:** State of Nevada Farm Bureau.  
**Location of Project:** Lincoln County and White Pine County.  
**Nature of Project:** Requested analysis of county economic impacts of local agricultural sector. A statewide analysis of all seventeen counties in Nevada is currently underway.  
**Action:** Completed analysis and drafted two publications (assignment completed):  

4. **Client:** U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Bureau of Land Management.  
**Location of Project:** Jarbidge Study Area.  
**Nature of Project:** Analysis of study area economic, household income, and employment impacts from alternative public land management policies in the Jarbidge Study Area.  
**Action:** Estimation of economic, household income, and employment impacts in the Jarbidge Study Area have been calculated. Report of findings is currently being drafted. (Assignment continues.)

5. **Client:** Nevada Off-Highway Vehicle Association.  
**Location of Project:** State of Nevada.  
**Nature of Project:** Estimate lost retail sales of off-highway vehicles to border counties.  
**Action:** Data being collected to derive lost off-highway vehicle sales to out-of-state dealers. (Assignment continues.)
D. **Technical and Management Assistance Projects:**

1. **Client:** National Extension.
   **Location of Project:** Nationally.
   **Nature of Project:** The USDA National Extension Service has developed a program area called eXtension: Entrepreneurship. This will be a national program to develop entrepreneurship extension education tools for the internet.
   **Action:** Initial meeting in Nashville, Tennessee to develop work plan and to outline entrepreneurship extension materials for the internet. (Assignment continues).

2. **Client:** Cooperative Extension.
   **Location of Project:** State of Nevada.
   **Nature of Project:** Extension publication on in-commuters and out-commuters for the state of Nevada and its seventeen counties.
   **Action:** In-commuters and out-commuters data is being collected at the state and county level. University of Nevada Cooperative Extension publications have been developed.

3. **Client:** Nevada Small Business Development Center.
   **Location of Project:** State of Nevada.
   **Nature of Project:** Completed data analysis and developed draft on the economic impacts of NxLevel entrepreneurs on the Nevada economy.
   **Action:** Impact analysis completed and information used in an initial draft of impacts of NxLevel entrepreneurs on the Nevada economy. (Assignment continues.)

4. **Client:** Lincoln County Commissioners.
   **Location of Project:** Lincoln County, Nevada.
   **Nature of Project:** Requested information and workshop on current and future economic and fiscal trends in Lincoln County.
   **Action:** Data collected and workshop presented in Lincoln County. (Assignment continues.)

5. **Client:** Mesquite, Nevada.
   **Location of Project:** Mesquite, Nevada.
   **Nature of Project:** Request by Chamber of Commerce of Mesquite for questionnaire of local businesses for business retention and expansion effort.
   **Action:** Questionnaire completed and analyzed. A University Center technical report developed and sent to the City of Mesquite. (Assignment completed.)
E. **Counseling and Referrals:**

1. **Client:** Lander County School District.  
   **Location of Project:** Lander County.  
   **Nature of Project:** Requested information on cost of living in Lander County.  
   **Action:** Cost of living data collected and sent to Lander County School District. (Assignment completed.)

2. **Client:** Region IV Development.  
   **Location of Project:** Twin Falls, Idaho.  
   **Nature of Project:** Requested information on the application of asset mapping to Region IV.  
   **Action:** A proposal has been drafted to Region IV with the Western Rural Development Center. (Assignment completed.)

3. **Client:** Public Affairs Specialists with Federal Land Agencies.  
   **Location of Project:** State of Nevada.  
   **Nature of Project:** Requested information on past projects on rangeland fires by the University Center.  
   **Action:** A discussion of past and future projects was presented. (Assignment completed.)

4. **Client:** Eureka County Commissioner.  
   **Location of Project:** Eureka County.  
   **Nature of Project:** Requested review of economic impact analysis of potential mine opening in Eureka County.  
   **Action:** Report review analysis completed and analysis sent to Eureka County. (Assignment completed.)

5. **Client:** Lander County.  
   **Location of Project:** Lander County.  
   **Nature of Project:** Requested assistance in development of local questionnaire.  
   **Action:** Questionnaire reviewed and additional questions provided. (Assignment completed.)
6. **Client:** Las Vegas – Clark County Urban League.
   **Location of Project:** Clark County.
   **Nature of Project:** Requested socio-economic data for JOLI Grant.
   **Action:** Socio-economic data gathered and sent to Las Vegas – Clark County Urban League. (Assignment completed.)

7. **Client:** Sierra Pacific Power Company.
   **Location of Project:** State of Nevada.
   **Nature of Project:** Discussion of development of manufacturing directory for state of Nevada.
   **Action:** Initial data analysis of Nevada manufacturers completed. (Assignment completed.)

F. **Workshops and Seminars:**

1. **Client:** Lincoln County Commissioners.
   **Location of Workshop:** Reno and Lincoln County.
   **Nature of Workshop:** Compressed video session discussing growth impacts.
   **Action:** Compressed video session held and completed. (Assignment completed.)

G. **Technical Presentations and Lectures by University Center Staff:**

1. **Client:** Western Agricultural Economics Association.
   **Location of Presentation:** Big Sky, Montana.
   **Nature of Presentation:** Two presented papers.
   **Action:** Two presented papers listed below (assignment completed):
   
   Carol Bishop; Curtis, Kynda and Harris, Thomas R. “Economic Feasibility of Alternative Crops in Northern Nevada.”
   
   George W. Borden; Alevy, Jonathan; Cox, Linda and Harris, Thomas R. “Targeting Employment and Entrepreneurial Opportunities: An Application of the Community Matching Business Model.”

H. **Journal Articles and Fact Sheets**

Sendall, Brandon, Thomas R. Harris, and Loretta Singletary. “Inter-County Commuting Patterns in Lyon County: Implications for Lyon County’s Economy.” University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, Fact -08-09, April 2008.


Sendall, Brandon, Thomas R. Harris, Holly Gatzke and Loretta Singletary. “Inter-County Commuting Patterns in Lincoln County: Implications for Lincoln County’s Economy.” University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet under review.

Sendall, Brandon, Thomas R. Harris, Gary McCuin and Loretta Singletary. “Inter-County Commuting Patterns in Eureka County: Implications for Eureka County’s Economy.” University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet under review.

Sendall, Brandon, Thomas R. Harris and Loretta Singletary. “Inter-County Commuting Patterns in Elko County: Implications for Elko County’s Economy.” University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet under review.

Sendall, Brandon, Thomas R. Harris and Loretta Singletary. “Commuting Patterns in the State of Nevada.” University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet under review.


I. Book Chapters


Sendall, Brandon, Thomas R. Harris, and Loretta Singletary. “Inter-County Commuting Patterns in Lyon County: Implications for Lyon County’s Economy.” University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, Fact Sheet-08-09, April 2008.


Sendall, Brandon, Thomas R. Harris, Holly Gatzke and Loretta Singletary. “Inter-County Commuting Patterns in Lincoln County: Implications for Lincoln County’s Economy.” University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet under review.
Sendall, Brandon, Thomas R. Harris, Gary McCuin and Loretta Singletary. “Inter-County Commuting Patterns in Eureka County: Implications for Eureka County’s Economy.” University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet under review.

Sendall, Brandon, Thomas R. Harris and Loretta Singletary. “Inter-County Commuting Patterns in Elko County: Implications for Elko County’s Economy.” University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet under review.

Sendall, Brandon, Thomas R. Harris and Loretta Singletary. “Commuting Patterns in the State of Nevada.” University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet under review.